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INFO RUEHAN/AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO 0870
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE
RHPIGXW/CJTF HOA

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 000013

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

AF/E FOR MARIA BEYZEROV; L/PM FOR PEGGY POPE AND MICHAEL
MEIER; ANTANANARIVO FOR DAO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [MASS](#) [MOPS](#) [SE](#)

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES: REQUEST FOR L DECISION ON LANDING FEES

REF: A. (A) POPE - BEYZEROV EMAIL 12/19/2009

[1](#)B. (B) PORT LOUIS 406

[1](#)C. (C) BLASER - HAINES EMAIL 12/9/2009

[1](#)D. (D) HOLDER - BEYZEROV EMAIL 11/12/2009

[1](#)E. (E) HOLDER - BEYZEROV EMAIL 9/30/2009

[1](#)F. (F) PORT LOUIS 205

[1](#)1. (U) This is an action message for L; please see paragraph
[1](#)4.

[1](#)2. (SBU) The U.S./Seychelles SOFA completed in 2009 was the first such agreement for Seychelles. As a result, the Government of Seychelles (GOS) and the commercial entities that are tasked with carrying out the day-to-day airport activities associated with military operations allowed under the SOFA are unfamiliar with the details required to implement the terms of the agreement. Seychelles International Airport is a commercial airport that is being used for both commercial and military operations. Air Seychelles (which is responsible for landing, handling, loading and other services at the airport) currently has one standard bill format that is presented to all incoming aircraft. (Please use this link to view bill samples: www.intelink.gov/go/41564) This standard bill includes fee options for all potential services.

[1](#)3. (U) Some of the fee options on the standard bill (items such as landing and parking fees, which are specifically mentioned in Article 6(b) of the SOFA) are easily identifiable as fees that are waived under the terms of the SOFA. There are other fees, however, for services that Air Seychelles provides to U.S. military aircraft (such as cargo handling, motorized steps, container/pallet loaders, toilets/water servicing, etc.) that are not specifically addressed in the SOFA.

[1](#)4. (U) Regarding U.S. military flights, Embassy to date has been operating on the policy (per interpretation of SOFA Article 6) that the fees for any items mentioned in (A) below should be waived, while the fees for any items in (B) below should be paid. Post requests that I confirm that this policy is the correct application of Article 6 in order to ensure that our interpretation of the fees to be paid is consistent with that of U.S. SOFAs worldwide. Response is requested by January 25.

(A) Fees To Be Waived:
Landing fee
Night Surcharge
Parking fee
Passenger service fee
Security service fee

(B) Fees To Be Paid:

Notification
Traffic Attendance
Engineering Attendance and Marshalling
Passenger and Baggage Handling (per person arriving/departing)
Cargo Handling
Loadsheet and Operations
Provision of General Declaration and Met Folder only
Provision of Motorized or Non-Motorized Step
Mobile conveyor
Container/Pallet Loader (each)
Forklift
Crew Administration
Transport
Other (examples are ice, canisters, etc.)
Duty Engineers Attendance
Engineering Shift (times number of persons required)
Ground Power Unit
Air Start Unit
Air Conditioning unit
Toilet/Water/Cabin Service and Cleaning
Push out
Liftee
Surcharge for above charges
Credit Card Commission (if credit/purchase card is used)

15. (SBU) Upon receipt of the response requested in paragraph 4, Embassy will formalize this information with the GOS and Air Seychelles, thus providing clarity for the Air Seychelles accounts payable department and all U.S. military users of the airport.

16. (U) Embassy point of contact for this issue is Pol/Mil Officer
Deanie Holder, holdera@state.gov or
holderax@state.sgov.gov.
WALKLEY